Record Nr. UNINA9910795629903321 Autore Ruth Greg <1986-> Titolo Tennis: a history from American amateurs to global professionals // Greg Ruth Urbana:,: University of Illinois Press,, 2021 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 0-252-05279-X Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xii, 317 pages) Collana Sport and society;; 138 Illinois scholarship online Disciplina 796.342 Soggetti Tennis - History Tennis players Women tennis players Tennis - Tournaments Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Also issued in print: 2021. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Introduction: Tennis amateurs and tennis professionals -- Amateur Associations along the American Atlantic Coast -- The West Coast game -- The cause celebre of the pioneering professional --Depression-Era developments in amateur and professional tennis --Wartime Southern California professionals -- The cultural contexts of mid-century women's tennis -- The "Kramer Karavan" -- The world champion from "The Wrong Side of the Tracks" -- Tennis Opens -- The rise and demise of world championship tennis -- The impact of sports agents and agencies on professional tennis -- Women's professional tennis in the early Open era -- Conclusion: Professional tennis as global entertainment. Sommario/riassunto The arrival of the Open era in 1968 was a watershed in the history of tennis - the year that marked its advent as a professionalized sport. Merging wide-angle history with individual stories of players and offthe-court figures, Greg Ruth charts tennis's evolution into the game we

watch today. His vivid account moves from the cloistered world of nineteenth-century lawn tennis through the longtime amateur-

professional divide and the battles over commercialization that raged from the 1920s until 1968. From there, Ruth details the post-1968

expansion of the game as it was transformed by bankable superstars, a popular women's tour, rival governing bodies, and sponsorship money.